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Attorney Docket No.: 00.22US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Maes, et al.

Serial No.: 09/773,351

Group Art Unit: 1617

Filed: January 31, 2001

Examiner: Jiang, Shaojia A.

For: Cholesterol Sulfate and Amino Sugar Compositions for Enhancement of Stratum Corneum Function

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Dear Sir:

RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.114

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT (Introductory Comments)

The following Preliminary Amendment is submitted as a further response to the Final Office Action dated September 10, 2004 and the Advisory Action dated December 28, 2004. Applicants previously filed, on December 10, 2004, a response to the Final Office Action, which was considered but not deemed to place the application in condition for allowance, and also filed, on March 9, 2005, a Notice of Appeal. Concurrently herewith, Applicants file a request for continued examination, and resubmit arguments in response to the rejections made by the Examiner in the Final Office Action because no further comments were provided in the Advisory Action. It has become apparent that the last presentation of the claims in Applicants' Preliminary Amendment of January 5, 2004 inadvertently omitted amendments made in Applicants' Response submitted on February 5, 2003. Therefore, Applicants request that the following amendments be entered for the corrected claims and that the following resubmitted remarks be considered.